FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 MAY 1985

Lebanon

Fighting continued between the Amal movement and Palestinians in Beirut 24 May despite the announcement of a cease-fire agreement between Amal and the Palestine National Salvation Front during the night, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The cease-fire agreement, reached during a meeting in Damascus chaired by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, provides for the Lebanese Army's 6th Brigade to maintain security in the Palestinian camps, from which weapons will be collected and stored, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, Amal sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon stated that overall casualties in the fighting had reached 238 dead and 900 wounded by the end of 23 May.

Responding to Syria's "campaign to justify the massacres" in Beirut, a PLO statement cited by Algiers Voice of Palestine radio stressed that the PLO has never planned and does not plan to return to Beirut, but that it is fully responsible for the security of Palestinians in the refugee camps. In a related comment at a Tunis press conference reported by the radio, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf claimed that the Amal movement is implementing a secret agreement with Israel and the United States, adding that the action against the Palestinians is the "bill" for Israel's final withdrawal. He warned that after "liquidating" the camps in Beirut Amal will move on to the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon. Khalaf welcomed Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's "good statement" on the situation and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat likewise thanked Al-Qadhdhafi during a press conference reported by Amman radio. Libyan media continued to support the Palestinians, with Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio citing a Libyan press comment describing Amal as a "fifth column" that is colluding with Israel and waging a "dirty sectarian war." The Libyan paper, *AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR*, added that Arab states with a presence in Lebanon can "immediately" halt the massacres.

As for the Lebanese christians, the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee issued a statement blaming the fighting in West Beirut on a "Palestinian decision made by Yasir 'Arafat to return to the arena of Arab axes through Lebanon," The Voice of Lebanon reported. The statement also held "Palestinian terrorism" responsible for the 22 May car-bomb in Sinn al-Fil.

Israel

U.S. Relations — In a television interview carried by the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE, Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon denied U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis' allegations that Sharon Gave Lewis and Philip Habib details of his plans to invade Lebanon during a meeting in December 1981.

West Bank — Security forces recently arrested 30 members of a PFLP cell held responsible for a number of attacks in the Ramallah district including the murder of an IDF soldier in Al-Birah, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes launched a second raid on Iraqi electricity installations 23 May, hitting a power station at Zubayr in southern Iraq, according to Tehran radio. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman acknowledged the Iranian attack on Dukan in a statement reported by INA, but he maintained that the Iranian aircraft were forced away by Iraqi air defenses without achieving their objectives.

In a separate development, IRNA claimed that Bahraini police have arrested a number of Iraqi diplomats who have confessed to establishing an underground organization in the Bahraini Army.

Iran

Iran has decided to expel the REUTER representative from Tehran because of his "biased" and sometimes "false" reports, an Islamic Guidance Ministry official announced in a statement cited by IRNA.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 101 *24 May 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INDIA

Finance Minister Returns From USSR, Comments ..... E 1
Libyan Ambassador Presents Credentials 23 May ..... E 1
Sikh Meeting in Punjab Faces Rift in Factions *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Joginder Singh Group Claims 'Real Akali Dal' ..... E 1
Curfew Imposed in Ludhiana After Clashes ..... E 2
Indefinite Curfew Imposed in Several Areas ..... E 2
2 Killed in Surat ..... E 2
62 Arrested in Surat ..... E 2
Sikhs Send Money to Training Center in Mexico ..... E 2
Briefs: GDR Cooperation Program ..... E 2
New Oil Find

PAKISTAN

Finance Minister Presents 1986 Fiscal Budget ..... F 1
Finance Minister Discusses Provisions ..... F 2
Delhi: Defense Budget Increase ..... F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

Defense Minister Meets With Border Forces ..... G 1
Economic Advisory Council Proceedings Noted ..... G 1

NEPAL

Authorities Arrest Congress Party President *[AFP]* ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene To Declare Martial Law if Necessary ..... G 2
BBC on Possible Martial Law ..... G 2
AFP: Jayewardene Plans Multiparty Conference ..... G 2
Athulathmudali Urges Vigilance on Terrorism ..... G 3
Parliament Debates Terrorism; BBC Criticized ..... G 3
Further on Australian Foreign Minister's Visit ..... G 4
Australia Allegedly Funding Tamils *[Melbourne]* ..... G 4
No Support for Separation ..... G 4

IRAN

Khamene'i Friday Prayer on Khorramshahr, War ..... I 1
Prime Minister Calls for Checks on Civil Servants ..... I 1
Majlis Approves Ministry of Heavy Industry ..... I 1
Cabinet Orders War Affairs Section in Ministries ..... I 2
REUTER Reporter Expelled for 'Biased' Reporting ..... I 2
Communique Reports Bombing Iraqi Power Station ..... I 2
2d Attack on Electrical Installations ..... I 2
Iraqi Diplomats Reportedly Arrested in Bahrain ..... I 3

Embassy in Beirut Sees 'Heinous Conspiracy' ..... I 3
Tehran Attacks Propaganda on Al-Faysal Visit ..... I 3
Tehran Reports Afghan Unity Moves ..... I 4
More on Afghan Unity Statement ..... I 4
KUNA Cites Opposition Claims Inside Iran ..... I 4
Nejat-e Iran: Chemical Weapons Being Produced ..... I 4
Radio Iran: Antiregime Protests in Bread Lines ..... I 5
Nejat-e Iran on 'Unrest' at Tehran University ..... I 5
Briefs: New Transmitter Commissioned ..... I 5

Finance Minister Returns From USSR, Comments

BK240710 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The finance minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, has said that the Soviet Union has shown interest in buying textile goods from India on a long-term basis. He said in New Delhi yesterday on his return from Moscow that the National Textile Corporation and other public sector undertakings will be geared up to meet the Soviet requirements. Mr Singh said during his meeting with the first Soviet deputy prime minister, Mr Arkhipov, the question of Soviet Union buying computers from India also came up. The Soviet Union has been increasingly using computers for education purposes in schools. The possibility of coproduction of computers was also explored, he said.

Libyan Ambassador Presents Credentials 23 May

BK231405 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The new ambassador of Libya, Mr Omar Ahmad Jadullah al-Awkali, presented his credentials to the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhawan [president's house] in New Delhi today. Welcoming the new ambassador, the president said cordial relations between India and Libya are an outstanding example of South-South cooperation. He hoped that relations between the two countries will be further consolidated in the coming years. The Libyan ambassador said his country values highly India's consistent support to the Palestinian people.

Sikh Meeting in Punjab Faces Rift in Factions

HK230952 Hong Kong AFP in English 0919 GMT 23 May 85

[Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, May 23 (AFP) — Militants in the main Sikh political party met in Punjab today, as analysts said a dispute with moderates seemed to be snowballing towards outright confrontation.

The moderate faction in the Akali Dal Party, meeting in Amritsar yesterday, rejected the May 11 resignation of the party's moderate president, Harchand Singh Longowal.

Militant Joginder Singh had announced on May 1 that Mr. Longowal was sacked from the presidency, and appointed a new nine-member committee under him to run the party.

The moderates yesterday also resolved that no one had the right to dissolve the party's previous committee.

The May 1 move, which received support in rural Punjab, was a victory for the militants who outnumber the moderates both in men and resources, analysts said.

Sikh analysts reached by telephone today said the militants' meeting would widen the gulf between the two factions, with "far reaching consequences on the affairs of the party and the Sikh autonomy campaign."

The current disagreements between the two wings were widening towards open confrontation, they said.

More serious open confrontation [as received] section of the Sikh community is campaigning for more autonomy for Punjab, while some want outright secession.

Separatists are suspected of being behind a series of bomb attacks in New Delhi and elsewhere in northern India May 10-11, killing at least 84 people.

Today's meeting is being attended by party representatives and members from Punjab villages, Sikh sources in Amritsar said.

"The meeting today will take stock of the situation and comment on yesterday's so-called resolution," militants' spokesman Surat Singh said.

Joginder Singh is the father of the firebrand Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was killed last June as troops stormed the Sikh Golden Temple, which militants had turned into a fortress.

The 2.2 million member Akali Dal had traditionally been headed by moderates, until effective leadership passed to the militants with the emergence of Mr. Bhindranwale in 1983.

Meanwhile, Mr. Longowal today appealed to his followers to avoid violence with militant Akali Dal Members, Sikh sources in Amritsar said.

In a statement in Amritsar he asked them not to demonstrate or do anything that might lead to clashes.

Punjab, a rich farming state in northwestern India, is the home state of most of the country's 16 million Sikhs.

Secessionists want to turn it into the state of "Khalistan" — the land of the pure.

The government passed on anti-terrorist bill in the federal parliament last week. After approval from President Zail Singh, it would greatly strengthen sanctions against political violence.

The resurgence in the Akali Dal of the militants, believed to have suffered a serious blow with Mr. Bhindranwales's death, has surprised analysts.

Meanwhile, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today that the army had defused a cricket-ball size bomb on a main railway track in the industrial Punjab city of Ludhiana, found just before a packed train was due to pass.

Joginder Singh Group Claims 'Real Akali Dal'

BK230949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Baba Joginder Singh has said that the ad hoc committee constituted by him represents the real Akali Dal. Talking to newsmen in Amritsar today he said he had met Badal, Mr Tohra, and Mr Talwandi yesterday in Chandigarh but nothing came out

of the meeting. He also ruled out the possibility of any further meeting with these leaders.

Curfew Imposed in Ludhiana After Clashes

BK240307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Punjab police arrested four more suspected terrorists in Jullundur yesterday. According to a police spokesman, some firearms were recovered from them.

Curfew was clamped in some areas of Ludhiana city last evening following clashes between two groups. The curfew will continue till 0600 tomorrow. According to an official spokesman, the police had to fire some shots in the air to disperse the unruly groups. Several persons are reported to have been injured in the stone throwing by the two groups.

Indefinite Curfew Imposed in Several Areas

BK231602 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat the situation in Ahmedabad, Baroda and Viramgam remained peaceful today barring a few minor incidents. No major incidents have been reported during the curfew relaxation period in these places. Two incidents of stabbing are reported from Kadi town in Mehsana District. Following this, indefinite curfew was imposed in the town from this afternoon. Indefinite curfew has also been imposed in several areas of Surat following incidents of stone throwing and arson in the afternoon, when a state transport bus was set on fire by some miscreants. In the evening police fired 56 tear gas shells to disperse a violent mob indulging in arson in the curfew-bound Varacha Road area. Indefinite curfew was imposed in all the areas in Varacha police station, Chowk Bazaar police station and (Mahidevpura) police station this afternoon.

2 Killed in Surat

BK240325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 85

[Excerpts] In Gujarat, two persons were killed last night in Surat when the state reserve police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob indulging in stone throuwing and arson. In another incident, the police fired five rounds in air to disperse a crowd setting fire to a bank branch. Thirty persons have been arrested in this connection. Several other incidents of stone throwing are reported from Surat. However, the situation is under control since midnight.

The junior doctors of the state government hospitals in Ahmedabad, Surat, and Jamnagar have called off their 2-month-old strike. This follows an agreement reached between the government and the striking doctors in Ahmedabad last night.

62 Arrested in Surat

BK240926 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The situation in Ahmedabad and Baroda is peaceful. No untoward incident has been reported after the relaxation of curfew in both cities since this morning. In Surat, one person was killed and 200 were injured when the police had to fire to disperse a violent mob indulging in stone throwing and arson. Several other incidents of stone throwing have also been reported since this morning. Sixty-two persons have been arrested in connection with yesterday's disturbances in the city. Indefinite curfew continues in areas under police stations of Varacha Road, Chowk Bazaar, and (Mahidevpura).

Sikhs Send Money to Training Center in Mexico

BK240403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] A group of Sikhs based in Delhi are believed to have sent over 6 crore rupees to the underground training center of Sikh extremists being reportedly run in Mexico. This was disclosed by a police official in a metropolitan magistrate's court in Bombay yesterday. He was arguing against the grant of bail to Amritpal Sarup Singh, who was arrested at Bombay airport on the 1st of this month for failing to account for over 34 lakh rupees found in his possession. He said the accused had admitted to having brought the money for conversion into foreign currency through an illegal dealer in Santa Cruza in northwest Bombay. Amritpal had confessed coming to Bombay several times for this purpose in the last 6 months and had allegedly brought foreign currency worth 2.5 crore rupees.

Briefs

GDR Cooperation Program — India and the GDR have signed a comprehensive program of cooperation. The secretary in the Department of Culture, Mr Y.S. Das, and the deputy foreign minister of GDR, Mr Gerd Koenig, signed the agreement in Berlin yesterday. The program envisages cooperation in the fields of arts and culture, education, science, public health, mass media, and sports, particularly through exchange of artists, experts, academics, journalists, and performing troupes. [Text] [*Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 May 85 BK*]

New Oil Find — Oil has been struck in the new area in upper Assam. Evidence from two exploratory wells drilled in the (Tinkong-Tunali) area, about 40 km southwest of Duliajan has established that there is significant accumulation of crude in the area. Oil India Limited has completed production testing from (Tunali) wells No. 6 and 7. Oil India has returned to this region after 21 years. Reassessment of prospects using advanced sophisticated seismic survey methods suggested that the area is prospective. [Text] [*Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 22 May 85 BK*]

Finance Minister Presents 1986 Fiscal Budget

BK241020 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpts] A surplus and balanced budget with no deficit financing for the next fiscal year was presented to the National Assembly in Islamabad today. It aims at providing substantial relief to the salaries staff, restructuring of taxation system, fundamental changes in the economy, record annual development program, and the uplift of the rural areas. Presenting the budget, the finance minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said that taking into account the concessions announced in the budget costing the national exchequer 4.69 billion rupees, there was need for an overall resource mobilization effort of 9.57 billion rupees. However, as a result of the various measures outlined in the budget, the government would not only be able to mobilize sufficient resources to eliminate the deficit but also to generate a modest surplus for the first time in our recent history. Outlining the measures for relief to the salaried staff, the finance minister said fixed salaries would be indexed in future to the rate of inflation to provide some (? defense) against the inflation. From the next year, the government is introducing a system of predictable pay increases in relation to the increase in the cost of living.

A national taxation reforms commission is to be set up to formulate recommendations for making the entire taxation system simple, just, and durable. The finance minister said that except for a few items, in most cases the rate of customs duty and other indirect taxes have been reduced to bring about reductions in the cost of production and prices of affected items. Basic changes have been made in wealth tax and gift tax. Separate assessments will be made for the wealth owned by the husband and wife. The distinction between the movable and immovable property is being done away with. Wealth brought home by the overseas Pakistanis would be exempted from wealth tax for 6 years. It has been decided to abolish the gift tax.

The government has decided to set up commercial finance commission for the allocation of financial resources and financial responsibilities between the federation and the provinces.

The budget seeks to create a new framework for industry and commerce. It is proposed to reduce corporate tax rates for public limited companies from 50 to 40 percent. The dividend income of the shareholders of such companies has been exempted from income tax.

A national deregulation commission has been set up to formulate the recommendations for implementing the deregulation policy during the next financial year. In order to accelerate the pace of development, a record annual development program of 40.8 billion rupees has been formulated for the next year. It represents an increase of 21 percent of the program implemented this year. The provincial governments are being allocated about 10 billion rupees for their development programs representing an increase of 36 percent over the current year. In addition, 1.43 billion rupees have been provided for the special program for provincial development. Part of this program will be earmarked for Baluchistan. Highest priority has been given to the energy sector in annual development program with 42 percent allocation of the program. A sizable national educational fund is being set up under the prime minister for financing education. A surcharge of 5 percent is being imposed on the bulk of imports. This would be called iqra' [educational] surcharge and is expected to yield 4.68 billion rupees. Educated unemployed men and women would be employed as teachers in new schools.

Referring to the development of rural areas, the finance minister said the maximum limit of interest-free loans to small farmers is being increased from 6,000 to 10,000 rupees. It has been decided in principle not to tax the establishments of any agroservices. The budget proposes to exempt from customs duty such items of agricultural technology as are not produced in the country.

A special program is being launched for additional efforts to provide clean drinking water and for construction of farm-to-market roads. A sum of 500 million rupees have been earmarked for the special program which would be over and above the allocation made for rural development by the federal and provincial governments. One billion rupees have been allocated for electrification of 3,000 additional villages next year with the aim of electrifying all the villages during the next 5 years. Two thousand one hundred and fifty million rupees have been allocated for important antiwaterlogging and salinity measures. The finance minister said the government has made important decisions to increase national savings. The economy in nondevelopment expenditure would save about 5 billion rupees.

In order to improve the efficiency and to rationalize the cost and tariff, it has been decided to increase railway fares by 23 percent and the WAPDA [Water and Power Development Authority] tariff by 10 percent. A 10-percent increase has been made in the price of petroleum. The government has decided that price of gas should not be increased for domestic consumers. However, there will be an increase on an average of 14 rupees and 60 paisa per 1,000 cubic feet in prices of gas for industrial and commercial consumers. Fertilizer prices will remain unaffected. The finance minister said that the government [words indistinct] positive that internal prices should not merely rise but also fall when the international conditions change. He said that the tea companies have agreed to reduce by 10 percent the prices of their packed tea in the country from tomorrow. He said that further decline in prices in international markets would also be followed by reduction in retail prices.

The finance minister also announced measures for converting the black money into white. For this purpose, special national fund bonds are proposed to be issued. It is also proposed to issue foreign exchange bearer certificates. He also announced a number of proposals for the welfare of the youth and promotion of equal progress of the women. He also listed measures for creating an equitable economic system in Islamic welfare state and made a particular mention for the elimination of riba [interest] from the banking system. He also announced measures for broadening the system of zakat and ushr [Islamic taxes] to make it more effective and to provide for permanent rehabilitation of mustahiqqeen [deserving people].

Earlier, the federal cabinet at its meeting in Rawalpindi today approved the budget proposals for presentation before the National Assembly. The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, presided.

Finance Minister Discusses Provisions

BK241138 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The finance minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, has said the major endeavor in the new budget is tc bring about structural changes, provide social justice to all sections of the society, and ensure capital formation and efficient running of the economy. Addressing a postbudget news conference in Islamabad this morning, he emphasized that a firm foundation for structural changes in the economy had already been laid down and now was the time for their implementation. He emphatically declared that the government was determined not to resort to deficit financing and there would be no mini budget. In order to promote capital formation, it was imperative that there should be lot of savings to reduce the dependence on external loans and internal borrowings. Some of the measures taken include reduction of income tax, corporate tax, abolition of gift tax, and reduction by half the wealth tax.

Answering a question, the finance minister said that the national taxation reform commission would look into the entire taxation system and examine the possibility of various taxation measures including the agricultural tax, consumption tax, users' charges and general purposes sales tax. The commission would submit its report within 6 months. It would provide a practicable and implementable system at least for the next 5 years.

He emphatically declared that there was no increase in the armed forces' expenditure in real terms. It would rather go down 45 percent to 24 percent.

The finance minister defended the delinking of Pakistani rupee from dollar. In this context, he referred to the position of other currencies and said Pakistan's economy would have been wrecked if the rupee had not been delinked.

The finance minister dispelled the impression that the increase in the railway fare, prices of petroleum and WAPDA [Water and Power Development Authority] tariff would lead to increased inflation. He said this had been necessitated to bridge the budgetary gap of 4.790 billion rupees. The other option was to deficit financing to which the present government was determinedly opposed.

Replying to another question, he said that the railway would be presenting its own budget from the next year and carry out improvement in its running. The finance minister said that as far as the economy of the country was concerned, the policy of the government would be to adopt such measures as could ensure the real introduction of the concept of Islami Musawat [Islamic equality].

Delhi: Defense Budget Increase

BK241024 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Pakistan is to spend over $2.066 billion for its defense during next financial year beginning from July. This represents an 11.5 percent increase than [as heard] that of the previous year. The overall budget is estimated at nearly $8 billion.

AFGHANISTAN

Defense Minister Meets With Border Forces

LD240918 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A meeting of the party activists of the border forces general command garrison was held yesterday at that command's hall. It was attended by Major General Nazar Muhammad, member of the PDPA Central Committee and DRA minister of defense.

The meeting was held to discuss the duties of the commanders, political organs, committees, and party organizations of the border force in light of the resolutions and decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's 15th Plenum and the future tasks of the staff of the border forces in defending the borders of the country and the complete crushing of the counterrevolution were specified.

A BIA correspondent reports that the fundamental report of the meeting was read out by the political head of the border forces. Then nine participants spoke in connection with the fundamental report and, while affirming it, they pledged that they will spare no sacrifice in implementing the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's plenums and the realization of the progressive aims of the party and state.

In conclusion, the meeting's work was assessed by the minister of defense and drew the attention of the participants once again to their heavy and responsible duties before the homeland, people, and revolution.

Economic Advisory Council Proceedings Noted

LD240921 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A routine session of the DRA Economic Advisory Council met yesterday under the chairmanship of Muhammad Khan Jalalar, the minister of commerce and chairman of the Economic Advisory Council.

At the beginning of the meeting, a report from the Trade, Financial and Banking Committee was discussed in accordance with the instruction of the Currency Commission of the DRA Council of Ministers. The report concerned the better use of currency earned and the export of fresh fruit.

After discussion and assessment, the report was affirmed. It was decided that, considering the vulnerability of fresh fruit during export, a joint commission should prepare the draft of a procedure for organizing the transfer of currency earned from fresh fruit in an experimental way for the current year.

A report from the Financial Committee was then heard, relating to a proposal of the Central Bank concerning the experimental organization of the transfer of earned currency and the sale of some state and private supermarkets.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the Economic Advisory Council positively assessed the proposals of the Central Bank and considered it beneficial in facilitating the daily affairs of the trade establishments and traders, in particular in collecting customs duties. It was decided that the matter of delivery of the cash (?liabilities) of private establishments should be implemented on an experimental basis in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and the state trade establishments for facilitating the transfer of money to banks and for speeding up action, so that on the basis of its results, steps could be taken in preparing a suitable procedure.

NEPAL

Authorities Arrest Congress Party President

HK240956 Hong Kong AFP English 0931 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Katmandu, May 24 (AFP) — Authorities here arrested the president of the banned Nepali Congress Party today, a party spokesman said.

Krishna Prasad Bhattarai and other party activists were arrested as they set out to take part in the second day of a civil disobedience campaign called by the party, the spokesman added. According to the party's programme, Mr Bhattarai was to lead a picket at the government Central Secretariat and the Supreme Court.

In the past three days some 1,000 Nepali Congress Party activists have been arrested in Katmandu and elsewhere, according to the party spokesman.

The arrests have somewhat slowed the momentum of the party's campaign of peaceful political agitation, called to press for the revival of a multi-party system of government, the release of political prisoners and more effective economic planning.

Over 500 riot police were seen deployed along the routes leading to the Supreme Court and the Central Secretariat in order to stop the banned party activists from picketing. The new home minister, Jog Mehar Shrestha, has called on the police to show restraint in dealing with the political agitators.

All five factions of the banned Nepal Communist Party have announced that they are to join the civil disobedience campaign on Monday. They have said they intend to hold rallies in Katmandu and elsewhere.

Another communist group, led by Bishun Bahadur Manandhar, has also announced its support for the campaign. The Nepal Students Union has said it is to stage a rally on Saturday. And on Sunday, Ganesh Man Singh, the most senior leader of the banned Nepali Congress Party, is due to lead a picket of the Central Secretariat and the Supreme Court in an attempt to persuade civil service and judiciary employees not to go to work.

Meanwhile the government has been monitoring the attendance of government staff in all government offices. Government employees who were on leave have returned to work to show their loyalty to the government.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene To Declare Martial Law if Necessary

BK240159 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] President Jayewardene has declared that peace and order must be established in Sri Lanka after stamping out terrorism at all costs. Presiding over a special meeting of the ruling parliamentary party yesterday, Jayewardene said if the need arose, he would declare martial law to achieve this end. The president disclosed that all members of Parliament will be given powers to maintain law and order in their respective constituencies.

In a statement to the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, the president said he came to power after being elected by the people and the MP's elected by the people have the duty to give protection to the people. All government officials should give protection to the people in each electoral constituency under the supervision of MP's, who have been empowered to take action in this regard.

BBC on Possible Martial Law

BK240100 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 24 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The authorities in Sri Lanka have given a warning that they will take strong action to stamp out terrorism caused by the Tamil separatist problem. In a statement after a debate in Parliament, President Jayewardene said that if the need arose he would declare martial law so as to preserve order in the country. From Colombo, Allen McDonald:

[Begin recording] President Jayewardene's unexpectedly tough statement suggesting that martial law was an option came after a meeting of members of the ruling United National Party. This meeting followed the 1st day of a 2-day emergency debate in Parliament on the government's handling of the crisis arising from the killing of nearly 150 Sinhalese civilians in the sacred city of Anuradhapura last week. The president said that peace and order have to be restored at all costs and terrorism wiped out. He also said he would give special powers to all members of parliament [MP], including those from the opposition, to help combat the threat of terrorism at constituency level. He declared: I was elected by the people and MP's have a duty to give protection to the people. He said troops and police could not do the job of fighting terrorism alone.

The statement issued late in the evening gave no details of how these new powers would work. During the deate in parliament, the government was criticized by a number of opposition MP's for what they saw as its failure to get a settlement to the separatist problem; the minister for national security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, coming in for particular criticism for failing to prevent the Anuradhapura massacre. Several hundred Buddhist monks at the same time staged a silent protest near the Parliament building and distributed leaflets critical of the government and calling for talks with India to help settle the separatist problem. [End recording]

AFP: Jayewardene Plans Multiparty Conference

HK240832 Hong Kong AFP in English 0808 GMT 24 May 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, May 24 (AFP) — President Junius Jayewardene plans a multi-party conference next week to seek cooperation in ending Sri Lanka's separatist violence, following stepped up separatist attacks, sources said today. But none of the Tamil political parties, even legal ones, were likely to be invited because of their support for separatism, the informed sources said.

Opposition parties have urged the government to resign, after suspected Tamil separatists last week attacked the sacred Sinhala buddhist city of Anuradhapura, killing nearly 150 civilians including Buddhist clergy.

Some opposition circles have said the government should seek a political solution to the Tamil problem by holding talks with Tamil groups, including proscribed ones. But the government does not plan to do so, the sources said.

The meeting expected to be held next week would follow the break-down last December of a national roundtable conference, after the main Tamil party and a major opposition party rejected its proposals.

The separatist Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), a recognised party, had said the conference's proposals for more autonomy did not go far enough. The opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) also turned down the plan, saying it would not halt separatist violence.

A section of the island's 2.5 million Tamils are fighting for independence for the north and east of the country from Sri Lanka's Sinhala majority.

The TULF is not expected to be invited next week and the SLFP may choose not to attend, sources said today.

Leaders of opposition parties would be invited in a search by Mr Jayewardene for cooperation in eradicating separatist violence, the sources said.

The opposition parties expected to be invited were the SLFP, the pro-Moscow Communist Party, the Equal Society Party, the Sri Lankan Peoples Party, the People's United Front, and the New Equal Society Party.

The sources stressed that a militant Sinhala party, the Peoples Liberation Front (JVP), would also not be invited. The JVP was proscribed shortly after July 1983 anti-Tamil communal violence, and its leaders are still being sought by police for alleged involvement in the affair.

Invitations to attend the conference are expected to go out over the weekend, the sources said.

More than 850 people by official count have died since a new wave of Tamil separatist activity began in mid-November last year.

Mr Jayewardene met last Wednesday with leaders of the country's four major religions — Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam — to discuss the separatist situation. Last week's attack on Anuradhapura was the first major attack by separatists in a predominantly Sinhalese area.

A major question mark hangs over the participation of SLFP leader Sirima Bandaranaike in any conference called by Mr Jayewardene, observers said today.

Mrs Bandaranaike, a former prime minister, was deprived of her civic rights by Parliament after she was found guilty of abuse of power by a commission appointed by the present government. She was thrown out of power in a 1977 general election.

The SLFP and some other parties have urged the government to restore Mrs Bandaranaike's rights and enlist her support against Tamil separatism.

If the SLFP leadership decides that the party should attend, it is possible that a vice-president of the SLFP will represent it, observers said.

The SLFP pulled out of the national roundtable conference summoned by President Jayewardene last year after the initial meeting.

After that conference the government has said it will not negotiate with any Tamil group that does not first abandon separatism.

Athulathmudali Urges Vigilance on Terrorism
BK231155 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has urged the people to be vigilant to prevent surprise attacks by the terrorists. He requested the police to be alert throughout the day. He said people should be suspicious of strangers in their areas. The minister was speaking at a religious ceremony held at Balangoda yesterday. Mr Athulathmudali said that he is in constant touch with all police stations throughout the country. Referring to recent incidents in the sacred city of Anuradhapura, he pointed out that except for one newspaper all other newspapers in the country had reported the incidents in the correct manner trying to give a true picture to the people. He expressed his disappointment that some had tried to make political game out of the incidents. He added that solutions to the problem cannot be found merely by speaking on platforms.

He noted that politicians should understand that terrorism as it is today is entirely different to what happened in 1971. Mr Athulathmudali pointed out that the current form of terrorism originated in 1974. But measures to combat this terrorism were adopted only recently. The minister, who recalled a statement he made on his appointment as national security minister in March last year, reiterated that time is needed to solve the problem. He stressed that security activities should be given priority although development must continue.

Recalling the no-confidence motion brought against Sir Winston Churchill after Germans torpedoed the British naval vessel "Royal Oak" during the World War II, Mr Athulathmudali pointed out that in a struggle such as this certain gains are also made by the enemy. The minister emphasized once again that the current crisis is not an ethnic or minority issue. The aim of the terrorists is to establish a totalitarian Marxist state. Mr Athulathmudali made a special appeal to Sinhala Buddhists throughout the island to visit the sacred city of Anuradhapura and also Mihintale on Pusunpoya on the 2d of June. He assured the nation that the government would provide complete protection to those places of worship.

The deputy minister of Mahaveli development, M.L.M. Abusalih also spoke.

Parliament Debates Terrorism; BBC Criticized
BK241115 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The debate for the extension of the state of emergency by a further month was resumed when the Parliament met this morning. The member from Kelaniya, Cyril Mathew, who participated in the debate, pointed out that terrorism has now become a menace, which could be controlled, but he regretted that the government during the past 10 years had not been able to eradicate terrorism from the country.

Transport Minister M.H. Mohammad, who expressed his views on the extension of the emergency, disclosed that certain Marxist organizations and foreign countries were extending their cooperation and providing assistance to the terrorist movement in this country. Referring to a recent statement by the Indian minister of state for external affairs, Mr Mohammad said that although Muslims in this country spoke Tamil, they should not be considered as belonging to the Tamil community.

The minister said that the Muslims have been greatly affected by the terrorist acts. They are always opposed to terrorism. He also pointed out that the Muslims would never allow the Eastern Province to be joined to a separate state of Eelam.

The minister also criticized the British Broadcasting Corporation for their attitude toward the situation in the country.

Minister Mohammad, who appealed to the opposition groups not to widen the gap between the Muslims and the Sinhala Buddhists, pledged that all possible measures will be taken to protect the sacred city of Anuradhapura.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, who participated in the debate, rejected allegations that the security forces had killed innocent people in the north. The minister, who was responding to a question raised by the member for Baddegama, Amarasiri Berengoda, requested him to withdraw his charge. Mr Berengoda said that the people in his country were living in fear today because of the menace of terrorism. He attributed the

deaths of innocent people caused by terrorism activity to the fault of the government.

Further on Australian Foreign Minister's Visit

Australia Allegedly Funding Tamils

BK230955 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Sri Lanka's national security minister, Mr Athulathmudali, has alleged that Tamil groups in Australia and other countries have been raising funds for separatist guerrillas operating in Sri Lanka.

Radio Australia's South Asia correspondent, John Mills, says Mr Athulathmudali told the visiting Australian foreign minister, Mr Hayden, he was not able to produce evidence to support his assertion, but was confident it was based on fact.

The Sri Lankan minister had said that as well as those living in Australia, Tamils in Western Europe and North America were giving financial help to the guerrillas.

Mr Hayden told reporters at the end of his 3-day visit to Colombo that he had ordered an investigation into the alleged fund raising illegal under Australian law.

Earlier this week, Australia's Council for Overseas Aid was critical of the Sri Lankan High Commission in Australia for writing to Sri Lankan nationals asking for money to help the defense forces counter the Tamil separatists.

No Support for Separation

BK231135 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] The Australian foreign minister, Bill Hayden, has pointed out that under no circumstances will Australia support a proposal for the separation of the country. Speaking to newsmen in Colombo at the Hotel Lanka Oberoi yesterday, Mr Hayden said that Australia deplores violence from whatever quarter, adding that it firmly upholds the sovereignty and integrity of Sri Lanka. Mr Hayden further said that the Australian Government had constantly explained the domestic problem in Sri Lanka was a matter to be resolved through negotiations and that a military option was not an answer to it.

Referring to his talks with Sri Lankan leaders, Mr Hayden noted that these talks mainly focused on domestic issues in Sri Lanka. This was because Australia had an interest in the matter, having a Sri Lankan population there.

Answering a question, Mr Hayden said he had discussed with President Jayewardene the matter of discipline in the Armed Forces, and had told the president that he had no knowledge that there had been breaches of the rights of the people or abuses of the law. Nevertheless, President Jayewardene had expressed determination in dealing with those who are responsible for any indiscipline if there are such instances. Mr Hayden said he was really impressed by the attitude on the part of the government. Mr Hayden left Sri Lanka this morning at the end of his 2-day official visit. During his stay here, Mr Hayden met President Jayewardene, Prime Minister R. Premadasa and several senior cabinet ministers, and members of the Buddhist clergy. He also held a round of talks with Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed.

Khamene'i Friday Prayer on Khorramshahr, War

LD241155 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] On the first Friday in the blessed month of Ramadan and the third anniversary of Khorramshahr's liberation, millions of our compatriots observed the Friday prayers throughout the country today. Fasting during Ramadan, Tehran's citizens with their presence in Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares observed this week's Friday prayers under the Imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam va al-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i today. During today's Friday prayers in Tehran the participants, paying tribute to the anniversary of Khorramshahr's liberation and chanting the slogans "War, war till victory!," declared their wish to continue the war until final victory.

Tehran's Friday imam devoted his first sermon to the subject of culture in society and the role of morale in molding men. Discussing the term "culture" in its various dimensions and its role in the dynamics of society, he emphasized: In confronting corrupt Western culture we have a greater problem than that in confronting the forces assaulting us, and it is the prime task of responsible officials in the Islamic Republic to uproot the trite, corrupting Western culture.

In his second sermon, marking the anniversary of Khorramshahr's liberation analyzing the course of the imposed war, the manner in which Khorramshahr was liberated by Islam's forces, and emphasizing the continuation of the war until final victory, he declared: In response to those in various parts of the world who question the fate of the war we say: the continued prosecution of the war and its fate shall be carried out in the same spirit with which we liberated Khorramshahr.

Mr Khamene'i also emphasized: The lesson we learned from liberating Khorramshahr is that whenever Islam's forces act with planning, will and decisive determination no redoubt could resist them.

Referring to International Jerusalem Day, Tehran's Friday imam, which by the decree of the imam happens to be the last Friday in the blessed month of Ramadan, said: We wish to prepare the Muslim people in the region and the world to raise their coordinated shout against the aggressive Zionists and thereby shake their hearts and those of their protectors.

In connection with the plot creating clashes between Lebanese and Palestinian muslims, culminating in killing and wounding a large group of Muslims, Tehran's Friday imam referred to the behind-the-scenes instigator of this plot as the treacherous hand of the Zionists and, addressing the two warring sides, said: These battles have been engendered thanks to foreign provocations. We condemn this conflict and call on all the groups to give up these clashes as soon as possible — which serve none other but the foes of Islam — to stand side by side and not to forget the real enemy constituted by the Zionists and their protectors!

Prime Minister Calls for Checks on Civil Servants

LD231418 Tehran IRNA in English 1338 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran, may 23, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said Thursday that it was a religious duty not to permit those who want to erode the Islamic Republic system from inside to penetrate into the civil service.

The premier was addressing members of selection offices who are responsible for the employment of civil servants.

He said colonial powers were trying to infiltrate government organizations in Iran and that the selection boards played a major role in preventing them from doing so.

"We have staged our revolution in the name of Allah, and the Islamic order has every right to make sure those who are in key positions are committed and faithful individuals," he added.

He said those who placed more value on the Western values than on the Islamic Republic, the Islamic ideology and the people's interests should not be allowed to enter the country's organizations.

Majlis Approves Ministry of Heavy Industry

LD231435 Tehran IRNA in English 1328 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran, may 23, IRNA — Iranian Majlis Thursday passed a bill for the establishment of the Ministry of Heavy Industries. It also heard speeches on Iran-Saudi relations and the Algerian accord that led to the release of 52 American hostages.

The bill for the establishment of a Ministry of Heavy Industries was discussed in the presence of the Guardian Council which oversees the legality of Majlis-approved bills.

Bahzad Nabavi, the minister in charge of heavy industries, spoke in support of the bill before the Majlis voted in favor of its principles. The details were set for discussion at a later date.

Before the deliberations, Ghazvin representative, Ahmed Azizi, spoke of the recent visit of Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal to Tehran.

In a two-day visit to Tehran, Sa'ud al-Faysal met top Iranian politicians and discussed bilateral ties and regional polites.

Azizi said: "Despite fundamental problems in ties between the two countries, the invitation indicated the good will of the Islamic Republic for living in peaceful coexistance with its neighbours and an effort to solve problems that exist in the way of closer ties". But Azizi warned that closer ties between the two countries must not eventually result in the "gradual disintegration of the ideals of the Islamic Republic" but a fundamental change in the policies of the other country.

He pointed to the documents recovered in the American spy den (Embassy) and said the policy of the United States is to impose a moderate trend on the Islamic Revolution in a bid to isolate it.

"The secret of the success of the revolution lies in its belligerence, in words and deeds," he said.

The representative of the southern port city of Khorramshahr, Yunes Mohammadi spoke on the third anniversary of the liberation of the city from Iraqi occupation and called for greater government attention to the problems that the war refugees were facing.

He said the refugees faced difficulty in finding living accommodations, work and school.

He expressed gratitude for the 63 billion rial (about 630 million dlr.) budget passed by the Majlis for the refugees but said the administration of the one million refugees was not within the scope of the foundation for the war-sticken.

Later, a Tehran representative, Ibrahim Israfilian, spoke on the state of discussions between the representatives of the Islamic Republic and the United States in the Hague tribunal and expressed regret over the dismisal of two Iranian judges and their advisors from the court.

Israfilian also said the signing of the Algerian accord between the two governments contradicted Majlis rulings.

He called on the domestic media to highlight the issue in a bid to neutralize American propaganda.

Cabinet Orders War Affairs Section in Ministries

LD231253 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] At its meeting yesterday, the cabinet approved the functions and responsibilities of the special industrial and engineering war support commission. Our correspondent reports that some of the functions of the special industrial and engineering war support commission are to study and make decisions on how the resources of ministries and government organizations may be used in war operations, to implement the projects approved by the Supreme Defense Council, to meet the requirements of the Defense Ministry and the Ministry of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, and to bring about coordination between various organizations so as to utilize government resources for the implementation of the approved projects related to the imposed war.

The cabinet further decided that a section called War Affairs Headquarters will be set up in every ministry or relevant organization under the appropriate minister or official aimed at expediting the consideration of requirements and implementing matters referred to them.

REUTER Reporter Expelled for 'Biased' Reporting

LD231135 Tehran IRNA in English 1110 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA — The REUTER news agency's representative in Tehran was told to leave Iran because of having sent biased reports from the events of the Islamic Revolution.

An official of the press office of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance said Trevor Wood, the REUTER man in Iran had sent biased and at times false reports on the issues of the Islamic Republic.

"After having notified him repeatedly, we decided to expell him because of his lack of attention to our warnings," the official said.

"Once before we were going to expell this reporter, but after the intervention of the REUTER regional manager, we decided to give Wood a chance to correct his work, but unfortunately, this did not take place."

Communique Reports Bombing Iraqi Power Station

LD231531 Tehran IRNA in English 1521 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA — Iranian jets Thursday bombed Iraq's Dokan power station at 06:16 local time (02:46 GMT) in retaliation for the Tuesday Iraqi aerial attack on Iran's industrial centers, said the Joint Staff Command.

It said all planes returned safely to their bases.

Reporting the ground fighting in the central Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts, the command said 20 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded when Iran's Muslim combatants bombarded enemy positions with heavy artillery in the past twenty four hours.

Two Iraqi tanks and six gun positions and observation posts were destroyed in this attack.

Another group of Iraqi troops were killed and wounded and eight of their bunkers destroyed when Iranian gendarmes attacked Iraqi positions in the vicinity of the southern Arvand River.

In the northwestern front, Iranian combatants controlled enemy movements and supply efforts.

On Tuesday night, Iraqi patrol units tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sar Dasht, Qasr-e Shirin and Qani Shaykh. They were forced to retreat with heavy casualties.

2d Attack on Electrical Installations

LD231710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] In retaliation for the air attacks of the aggressive Ba'thist forces of Iraq on 21 May against a number of economic installations in our country, at 0616 and 1707 today, 23 May, the self-sacrificing and heroic pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed electricity installations in Dokan in the north of Iraq and (?Howrah) power generator in Zubayr in the south of Iraq, and after inflicting heavy damages upon those installations returned safely to their bases.

Iraqi Diplomats Reportedly Arrested in Bahrain

LD231645 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA — Thirteen persons including a number of Iraqi diplomats have been arrested in the past two weeks in Bahrain after the police cracked an underground organization, informed sources said.

The organization was a pressure group and the Iraqi diplomats confessed to the police that they formed the group in the Bahraini Army on the instructions of the Iraqi regime.

Police discovered the organization when a Bahraini officer tried to take one of his Iraqi collaborators into the Al-Jufayr naval base illegally.

Iraqi agents have been responsible for a number of bomb explosions in Persian Gulf states including Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

Search for other members of the organization is underway.

Embassy in Beirut Sees 'Heinous Conspiracy'

GF240519 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran Embassy in Beirut issued a communique yesterday which castigated the recent clashes in Beirut and deemed it a heinous conspiracy for diverting the Islamic resistance from the real enemies, that is, the United States, Israel, and their agents.

In this communique, all the involved parties were invited to join the efforts to end these clashes, and to refrain from their escalation.

Tehran Attacks Propaganda on Al-Faysal Visit

GF231704 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 22 May 85

[From "What Are Foreign Radios Saying" program]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the visit paid to Iran by Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Sa'ud al-Faysal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, led to conflicting comments by the western propaganda organs. Each put forward differing views. The VOA, the BBC, and Israeli radio openly expressed their concern over the visit, moving at the same time to claim that it was one of the moves made in the region to end the Iran-Iraq war. Here is what VOA said on 19 May.

The visit paid to Tehran by the Saudi foreign minister came after another call for a cease-fire.

The VOA officials added the following immediately: The unexpected visit paid to Tehran by the Saudi foreign minister has surprised many observers.

BBC displayed a similar state of inconsistency. On 18 May, it said the following:

Obviously, Saudi Arabia has been exerting an intensive effort since the beginning of the war to bring about an end to the fighting. In that regard, Sa'ud al-Faysal agreed to an invitation by Iran by visit Tehran.

In continuing its report, however, BBC said the following:

Iran wishes to place the Arab world in the western sector of its borders under its political hegemony.

Naturally, the link the imperialist propaganda organs tried to establish between the visit the Saudi foreign minister paid to Iran and the imposed war against the Islamic Revolution defines the numerous conflicts in such remarks. While VOA moved to put certain views forward with regard to the visit, BBC and other Western radios endeavored to link the visit to the war. What is more important is the fact that the Zionist Israeli regime and the U.S. Administration did not refrain from expressing concern over Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Meanwhile, the move made by the Western radios to establish a link between the Saudi foreign minister's visit to Iran and the latest propaganda move made by the Zionist Saddam regime for having a cease-fire declared at the battlefronts during the sacred month of Ramadan was an initiative that was expected. It was common knowledge that foreign radios controlled by imperialism, which have been acting against the Islamic Republic of Iran, would move to exploit the visit and appraise it in line with their disgusting objectives.

Under the circumstances, it is expected that the radios will move in the next few days to use the latest developments to propagate that Saddam is for peace, that he has declared a 1-month-long cease-fire on all battlefronts, that it is due to this that the Saudi foreign minister visited the Islamic Republic of Iran but regrettably the Iranian officials failed to agree to the proposal because of favoring the war, and that the officials insist on their old stand. Nevertheless, taking into consideration the effort made by imperialist mass media organs to exploit the matter and the move they may wish to make in the future for the same purpose, it is understood that the world oppressors and Zionism are daunted by the establishment of strong relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the neighboring countries in the region. This can be clearly observed in the commentaries carried by the mass media organs of the imperialist and Zionist countries — commentaries which claim that the Islamic Republic of Iran covets Arab lands.

Iranian officials clearly explained their policies and views to the visiting Saudi foreign minister on matters concerning the region. For example, the question of Lebanon is a very important matter in sofar as the Islamic Republic of Iran is concerned. All governments ruling in countries which have Muslim populations must support the struggle of the Muslims of Lebanon.

As for the question of the war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that unless the main factor for the war is identified and penalized the region will not have tranquillity and security. If the Persian Gulf countries cherish a wish for genuine tranquillity and peace, they should remove Saddam and the

Ba'thist regime from power and let the people of Iraq free to determine their own future.

As for the question of mobilizing the resources in the hands of the Muslims for Islam and for the struggle against the enemies of the Islamic community, that is another matter which the Islamic Republic of Iran has been pursuing and on which it has already expressed its views in clear terms.

Although it may lead to limited results, putting forward an open plan on the matters referred to is a kind of success which is of special importance. Apart from this, however, it is necessary to focus attention on the fact that such visits and talks cannot lead to changes in the Islamic Republic's basic principles.

Tehran Reports Afghan Unity Moves

GF231700 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] In response to the directions of Ayatollah Montazeri regarding unity and coordination among all the factions of the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan in order to achieve the legitimate rights of the oppressed Afghan people, the coalition of Islamic parties and the devoted religious ulema in Afghanistan issued a statement expressing their readiness to establish any form of principled, comprehensive unity with all the loyal and believing powers within the framework of the nonaligned principle.

The statement affirmed that the ranks which are loyal to the directions of Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the Islamic revolution, should take major and practical steps in order to achieve the legitimate rights of the oppressed Afghan people.

The statement expressed the hope that this step would be one to achieve harmony among all the Islamic powers, whether they are Shi'ite or Sunni, in order to topple the atheist ruling regime and to establish an Islamic republic of Afghanistan.

More on Afghan Unity Statement

LD231733 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Qom, May 23, IRNA — Five Afghan resistance groups issued a joint communique calling for unity among Muslim organizations fighting the Soviet-installed regime in Kabul.

The statement came after an appeal by Ayatollah Montazeri Tuesday calling for unity in the Afghan resistance.

Montazeri had told a group of Afghan theologians that they had a duty to lead and strengthen various factions of the Muslim Afghan resistance.

Thursday's statement was signed by five Afghan groups: The Islamic Movement, the Guards of the Islamic Holy War, the United Front for the Islamic Revolution, the Nasir organization and the Afghan ulema.

The statement called for union among all Sunni and Shi'ite forces towards the establishment of an Islamic republic in Afghanistan.

It said the unity should be based on the principle of nonalignment to the East or the West.

KUNA Cites Opposition Claims Inside Iran

LD232021 Kuwait KUNA in English 1902 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] London, May 23 (KUNA) — Iran's opposition people's mojahedin organisation [Mojahedin-e Khalq] said Thursday its followers knocked out 170 military vehicles and five warplanes during a month of anti-government action in the Islamic Republic.

In a statement released in London and Paris, the exiled leadership of the group said its fighters killed two Iranian officials in three clashes with "Pasdaran" revolutionary guards in Tehran and the northern city of Rasht.

The actions came as part of a "month of resistance for peace and freedom" called for by the organisation on April 21 as part of its campaign against the Tehran authorities.

Mohahedin co-leader Maryan Rajavi described the month as an "unprecedented escalation" of the organisation's activities, reporting over 100 demonstrations in a number of Iranian towns and districts.

She said that Mojahedin cells in the country had also destroyed 18 "centres of suppression and torture", as well as distributing over 1.3 million leaflets.

A total of 2,500 people were arrested by the authorities as a result of the campaign, many of whom were sentenced to death, according to the opposition group's statement.

Nejat-e Iran: Chemical Weapons Being Produced

GF230720 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The clerical regime in Iran has so far manufactured several kinds of chemical weapons. A Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Shiraz reported in a telephone dispatch that at present the chemical fertilizer plant in Marvdasht on the Persepolis-Shiraz Highway has manufactured several types of dangerous chemical weapons which are ready to be used.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent, quoting an agricultural expert, adds that the factory's first product is weapons containing mustard gas. It has been given this name because of the brown smoke it disseminates in the area where it is used. A vast quantity of this type of chemical weapon is now ready to use. It has been tested and is being stored in the grounds near the Marvdasht factory, ready for transportation.

These bombs will soon be deployed in the war fronts with Iraq upon the orders of Khamene'i, the head of the Supreme Defense Council.

These bombs, soon after falling from the aircraft and soon after the attacking aircraft departed the area, spreads in the form of [word indistinct] gas and is extremely dangerous and lethal.

Its immediate effects are a burning sensation in the eyes and throat, and it causes wounds and blisters on the bodies of soldiers and those present on the war fronts.

Another type of chemical weapon which at present is being produced at the Marvdasht chemical fertilizer plant is a bomb containing hydrogen cyanide gas. Hydrogen cyanide gas, which is one of the most dangerous forms of chemical weapons, is very damaging. It can easily be very dangerous within a very short time after its use.

Nejat-e Iran correspondents quoting military experts report that the clerical regime is determined to make up for its recent defeats in the war fronts with the aggressor enemy, caused by a difficient air force, lack of pilots, and other fighting forces in necessary numbers and lack of technical facilities and spare parts. It has no choice but to depend on such deadly weapons.

If these actions are reciprocated a bitter fate awaits the people of Iran and Iraq.

Radio Iran: Antiregime Protests in Bread Lines

GF230958 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1830 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Reports from nationalist sources indicate that the people's shouts of protests in the long bread lines, specially in the Yusef-Abad District [in Tehran] and the surrounding areas, have been followed by clashes with security officials of the regime.

People in the bread lines in Tehran usually give antiregime slogans against Khomeyni. The regime's security officials cannot do anything about this.

Nejat-e Iran on 'Unrest' at Tehran University

GF231754 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tehran University is in a state of unrest. The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Tehran reports that during the past 2 weeks unrest at the university has been growing constantly and the size of student clashes with officials of the regime has been spreading daily.

The resignation of the university president has not been accepted by the prime minister. The resignation was submitted by Dr Fazel, the minister of higher education and culture.

In these most sensitive days of education, the university is facing struggle, debates, and bitter disputes between various student groups. Notices, pictures, night posters, bills, and carricatures ridiculing the clerics are appearing on walls, and in classrooms and are seen as proof of a new political movement within Tehran University. The students at the university say that when they were being used by the cleric regime to capture government, they had the right to participate in politics. However today the students are now denied freedom of speech and are being prevented from participating in politics.

The report said that Mir-Hosayn Musavi openly supports the students but he is under influence of the regime clerics who are stationed at the universities. The clerics have ordered the number of armed guards at Tehran University to be doubled this week in addition to the two armored cars already permanently stationed behind the northern wall of the university to provide security for Friday prayers.

Our correspondent added that following the explosion a few weeks ago during Friday prayers, President Khamene'i, instead of using his own car, left the university for his residence in one of the armored cars.

Briefs

New Transmitter Commissioned — According to the Central News Unit, with the efforts of the expansion unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran network, work on the installation of a 10-kilowatt transmitter in the vicnity of Sabzevar has been completed. The transmitter is now operational. With the functioning of this television transmitter the residents of Mazinan and Davarzan villages will be able to view the first network programs of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran on channel 12. [Text] [*Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 May 85 GF*]